

A BI-STABLE STYLUS FOR USE AS
AN INPUT AID

ABSTRACT

Embodiments of the present invention include a stylus for use with a touch screen having a digitizer, the stylus being configured to fit comfortably in the hand of the user and comprises: an elastic segment; an operating end tapered to a point coupled to the elastic segment; a second end cap coupled to the elastic segment and a plurality of mid-segments coupled to the elastic segment. In one embodiment the stylus comprises four different parts including a tip, an end cap, mid-segments and an elastic member. Furthermore, in one embodiment, a simple spring is used to attach the tip, the end cap and the mid-segments. The stylus can be locked into place while in use or can be bent to conform to the geometry of the portable electronic device. The result is a bi-stable stylus sized to conform to a user's hand that can be stored on smaller dimensioned portable electronic devices. Additionally, the cost of manufacturing such a stylus is reduced because the variety of parts is minimal.